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WAS JOUBERT KILLED?

Startling Report That Boer Commander Was Shot In Battle.

LONDON OFFICE NOT ADVISED

According to the Information From Unofficial Sources Ladysmith Is Still Being Subjected to Bombardment.

Durban, Nov. 16.—The Times of Natal publishes a telegram from Lorenzo Marquese, saying that General Joubert was killed in action on Thursday, Nov. 9.

London, Nov. 16.—Nothing is known at the war office of the reported death of General Joubert.

London, Nov. 16.—The most startling news from the seat of war is the report of the death of General Piet Joubert, the commander-in-chief of the Boer forces. Though the report comes from many different quarters it obviously lacks confirmation. At the same time, many people believe the report to be well founded, as the general's death is said to have occurred Nov. 9, when the Boer rifleman were understood to be within 1,500 yards of Ladysmith. As severe fighting between the British and the Boers the same day has since been reported, it is regarded in some quarters as quite possible that General Joubert, always noted for his personal courage and coolness, may have dangerously exposed himself in a personal reconnaissance of the British position.

If Joubert was really killed on the battlefield, it would seem to be the fittest death for such a gallant soldier.

Even his foes admit that he fought squarely and fairly, and his action, when General Symonds died, in cabling his sympathy to the bereaved widow, established him to the high regard of all soldiers. It is claimed that the death of Joubert would be likely to lead to the adoption by the Boers of bolder and more active tactics, as it is well known General Joubert was a cautious and conservative commander, and that he had considerable difficulty in restraining his hot-headed followers.

The dribble of news bring the information that Ladysmith was still undergoing bombardment on Sunday from six 40-pounders, while the British naval guns were silent. The Boers, it consequently appears, have got more heavy guns into position, while either the British ammunition has given out or the British gunners are reserving their fire in view of the poor practice made by the besiegers.

The reports that the Boers have penetrated southward from Colenso to Chieveley, where they are said to have cut the railroad, shows, it is claimed, that they are adopting a proper strategic plan to impede the advance of the British relieving force.

Perhaps this may turn out to be General Schaburger's force, which, when last heard from, was raiding Zululand. This force, it is asserted, may next be heard from south of Estcourt, which they will, in all likelihood attempt to isolate before further reinforcements arrive. Indeed it is already reported that a Boer force has been seen in the neighborhood of the line north of Mool river.

According to the latest advices from British sources at Estcourt the Boers are suffering from lack of supplies, though the large stores the British left when they evacuated Newcastle and Dundee must have been of great assistance to the Boer commissariat. But the task of maintaining a complete investment of Ladysmith is probably proving onerous.

Ladysmith seems to be well provisioned and the entrenchments are daily being strengthened.

The Boers have renamed Dundee "Meyersdorp," after General Lucas Meyer, whose forces fought those of General Symonds there.

Bewailed Their Fate.

London, Nov. 16.—The Times Durban correspondent, under date of Sunday, Nov. 12, says: "Chaplain Matthews arrived here. He testifies to the splendid defense of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and the Gloucester regiment against an overwhelming force of Boers, who held positions on three sides of the British troops. Retirement on the fourth side was impossible, as the way was too precipitous, and surrender was the only alternative to annihilation, as the Boers were on the point of opening a shell fire upon them.

It was pathetic to hear the Fusiliers bemoaning their misfortune, several, with tearful eyes, saying, 'Father, I would rather have been shot than this.' Commandant General Joubert over-

seer Father Matthews released, on condition that he assist the Boer wounded, but afterward countermanded the order, and the chaplain was taken with the other prisoners in wagons 20 miles to Waschbank, where he, with the rest of the captured, was placed on a train for Pretoria. The Boers have few tents, and are thought to be suffering severe privations."

Bombardment Resumed.
Estcourt, Natal, Nov. 15.—The West Yorkshire regiment has arrived here. The bombardment of Ladysmith has been resumed. Heavy firing was heard. An armored train was sent out on a reconnaissance toward Colenso.

THE GRANGERS

Will Take Drastic Action Against the Trusts.

Springfield, O., Nov. 16.—There is every indication that all important resolutions submitted to the National Grange for adoption will be based on the grand master's address, declaring war upon the trusts in no uncertain manner, and carrying with them suggestions as to the measures necessary to secure the proper legislation to put them out of business. As it was, the sentiment of the grand master's speech, so it is the sentiment of the hotel lobbies, where these matters are discussed in common.

The officials submitted their reports, which were of an encouraging nature indicating the grange to be growing both in membership and influence.

To Sound Legislative Candidates.

Frankfort, Ky., Nov. 16.—Taylor's friends have begun a quiet canvass of the members of the legislature, sounding them as to how they would vote on a contest should the state election board throw out Knox, Johnson or Pulaski counties, and also 1,100 votes cast in Nelson for W. P. instead of W. S. Taylor. It is said four Democratic members of the house, and at least six Democratic senators have been found so far who will not vote to seat Goebel. This movement on Taylor's side is construed to indicate the opinion that Goebel will be given a certificate of election from the state board.

Head-End Collision.

Louisville, Nov. 16.—A head-end collision between passenger trains occurred at Pleasure Ridge Park, Ky., eight miles south of this city. Passenger train No. 41 on the L. & N. and St. L., bound for St. Louis, and the Illinois Central, northbound from New Orleans, came together in a dense fog. Injured: G. B. Shaw, postal clerk, head cut, leg broken, and thought to be internally injured, will die; W. H. Hinsley, baggage-master of L. & N. & St. L., badly bruised and cut; A. M. Evans, conductor L. & N. & St. L., badly sprained ankle and severe bruises.

Tin Plate Trust.

Washington, Nov. 16.—William H. Griffith, who established an independent tin plate manufactory at Washington, Pa., was before the industrial commission. He said the American Tin Plate company not only practically controls the tin plate product, but also the production of tin plate machinery, there being only one independent machinery plant left.

Short of Coal.

Lebanon, Pa., Nov. 16.—The American Iron and Steel Manufacturing company has suspended operations in all its local puddling and rolling mills. The cause assigned is an exhausted coal supply, resulting from the car famine, which has affected industrial establishments all over the state. Fully 1,500 workmen are idle for an indefinite time.

The Official Vote.

Jackson, Miss., Nov. 16.—The secretary of state made an official announcement of the returns from the recent state election. Longinos, Democratic candidate for governor, received 42,227 votes, against 6,421 for Pre-witt, Populist; Longinos' majority, 35,806. The vote on the Noel amendment was: Yeas, 21,168; nays, 8,643.

Witnesses on Hand.

Lansing, Mich., Nov. 16.—Ten witnesses, including Speaker Adams of the last legislature, have arrived to give evidence before the grand jury, which convened here. The jury will consider, it is said a bill proposing to buy \$100,000 worth of law books, and which, it is alleged, the book concern was willing to spend \$30,000 to pass.

A Correspondent Killed.

London, Nov. 16.—The Daily Mail's Mafeking correspondent says E. G. Parslow, the correspondent of the Daily Chronicle, was shot through the brain and instantly killed by a revolver discharged accidentally in the hands of Lieutenant Monchison. Mr. Parslow was a Cape Town man.

LOANS AND DEPOSITS.

Remarkable Increase of Both During the Past Ten Years.

FIGURES OF COMPTROLLER.

Results of the Investigation Indicate a Magnitude of Banking Resources Unparalleled in World's History.

Washington, Nov. 16.—Charles G. Dawes, comptroller of the currency, has made public the results of the investigation which he made into the number of loans and deposit accounts, rates of interest and resources of the combined banks of the United States in the years 1889, 1894 and 1899.

In collecting this data nearly 10,000 reports from banks have been examined and compiled.

The investigation into the number of loans and deposit accounts and average loans and deposits is the first ever made, covering the United States, either in reference to the financial system of banks other than national. The results of this investigation indicate a magnitude of banking resources and a rate of growth in number of deposit accounts which is unparalleled in the financial history of the world.

The comptroller states that the results of the combined banks are carefully estimated upon the basis of ratios found to exist in the reporting banks, and that they may be regarded as substantially accurate. He is careful to call attention to the fact that the number of deposit accounts and loans given in his figures must not be confused with the number of depositors and borrowers since the same individual may have loans and deposits in several banks, each of which would make a separate report to the comptroller. While therefore the actual number of borrowers and depositors is much less than the number of loans and deposit accounts, the growth in the latter is evidence of the general growth in the number of individual visitors and borrowers.

The general deductions from the investigation, covering the last 10 years, is given by the comptroller as follows:

"First—That the number of individual depositors in the banks of the United States is constantly increasing, as indicated by the large increase in the number of deposit accounts of the combined banking systems, estimated as follows: July 12, 1889, 7,203 banks reporting 6,708,971; July 18, 1894, 9,508 banks reporting 8,993,766; June 30, 1899, 9,732 banks reporting 11,432,635.

"The estimated grand total for the year 1899, based upon banks reporting and statistics as to nonreporting banks obtained from tax returns to the commissioner of internal revenue, shows 13,153,874 deposit accounts in 12,804 banks.

"Second—That there is a demand from borrowers for the use of the greater proportion of the deposits of banks, and while the number of individual borrowers is increasing, the depositors greatly outnumber the borrowers, and the increase in the number of borrowers is much less than the increase in the number of depositors as indicated by the rate of increase in the number of loans, estimated as follows: July 12, 1889, 7,203 banks reporting 2,188,541; July 18, 1894, 9,508 banks reporting 2,990,694; June 30, 1899, 9,732 banks reporting 3,911,664.

"The estimated grand total for the year 1899, based upon banks reporting and statistics as to nonreporting banks obtained from tax returns to the commissioner of internal revenue, shows 5,067,252 loans in 12,804 banks.

"Third—That the growth of the banking systems is being characterized by a gradually lessening rate of interest charged on loans.

"Fourth—That a gradually lessening rate of interest is being paid upon deposits.

"Fifth—That, considering the large clientele of national and savings banks, the average deposit of the individual or corporation is slowly increasing.

"Sixth—That the average size of the loans, all classes of banks considered, has not varied much in the last decade.

"Seventh—That the growth in the aggregate of individual deposits has increased. The estimated grand total for the year 1899, based upon banks reporting and statistics as to nonreporting banks obtained by tax returns to the commissioner of internal revenue, is \$7,513,854,361 in 12,804 banks.

"Eighth—That the growth in the aggregate loans has increased. The estimated grand total for the year 1899, based upon banks reporting and statistics as to nonreporting banks obtained from tax returns to the commissioner of internal revenue, is \$5,751,467,519

RACE FOR LIFE.

The Steamer Conestoga Sinks at the Mouth of Chicago Harbor.

Chicago, Nov. 16.—The steamer Conestoga of the Anchor line sank at the mouth of the harbor after a race for life. The steamboat, bound into Chicago from Buffalo in the dense fog that hung over Lake Michigan, ran into the half-way crib, a mile and a half out from the harbor entrance, and a great hole was stove into her bow.

The bow commenced to fill with water fast, and there was a disposition to rush for the boats. But the captain gave orders to turn on all steam and make a quick run for the harbor, and commanded the men to stand at their posts. The Conestoga was settling fast and her speed was diminishing greatly before half the distance to the piers at the mouth of the harbor had been traversed. As the mouth of the harbor was gained floods of water poured into the fire hold, drove the stokers up the ladders to the deck, and at last extinguished the fires under the boilers. The Conestoga came to a stop as her keel rubbed hard in the mud at the bottom of the harbor entrance, and she settled fast. The water did not reach the upper deck and the crew were safe.

The steamer was loaded at Buffalo and carried freight from the eastern points. It is estimated the loss on the cargo will alone be in the neighborhood of \$100,000.

Firemen Injured.

Chicago, Nov. 16.—Fire destroyed a 7-story building in the heart of the downtown retail district, and caused a loss estimated at \$150,000, and injured a score of firemen and spectators. For a time it looked as though the flames would spread and destroy hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of property in that valuable section of the city. Shortly after the fire started an explosion blew out part of the front of the building. Glass, blazing fire brands and debris were scattered in all directions. Among the injured were Chief of the Fire Department D. J. Swenle and his two assistant marshals, Musham and Townsend. All three were badly cut by flying glass, the two latter being forced to retire to have their wounds dressed.

Struck a Store.

Estcourt, Natal, Nov. 16.—The armored train has returned from another trip on which Colenso was reached. No Boers were seen. On its way back the train picked up a native runner at Frere, carrying a number of letters, who had been searched by the Boers, but had in some manner managed to keep his documents from falling into the hands of the searchers. This runner stated that Ladysmith was bombarded on Thursday, Nov. 9, by six 40-pounders, one shot from which struck Illing's store. The British big naval guns were still silent when he left. Little damage was done by the Boer bombardment, and there were few casualties.

Bell People Pleased.

New York, Nov. 16.—After negotiating for more than a week, the capitalists who control the Knickerbocker Telephone company and the People's Telephone company, the two local outside concerns organized to fight the Bell Telephone company in this city, have failed to agree upon a basis of consolidation. Indications, therefore, point to three rival telephone companies in this city, and the Bell company is said to be pleased that its opponents did not join forces.

Pearl Hart Acquitted.

Phoenix, A. T., Nov. 16.—Pearl Hart, the alleged woman bandit, who was charged with holding up a stage near Florence, was acquitted at the trial before Judge Doan of Florence. Miss Hart addressed the jury in her own defense and pleaded passionately for freedom, that she might return to Toledo, O., to see her fast-failing mother. Immediately after her acquittal the woman was rearrested, charged with interfering with United States mails, and will be tried again.

Deceived the Dogs.

Irvine Depot, Ky., Nov. 16.—The opening day of the national fox hunters' meet was fine. The dogs were cast in the Derby, which is for puppies, at six o'clock. The hunters were up at four and followed the guide to the Kentucky river. They struck a trail and carried it between two mountains. In high delight the horsemen and houndswomen joined in the chase. Sly Reynard sought safety in the mountain side and threw the dogs.

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 16.—J. J. Fry, general manager of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad, announced that he had tendered his resignation of that position. It is said that President Robert Barr will succeed Mr. Fry as general manager, retaining, too, his present title.

GANG OF MASKED MEN

Attempt to Hold Up an Express Car on the Lake Shore Road.

RAILROAD ROBBERS IN OHIO.

Before the Daring Operator Had Time to Get the Packages of Money the Messenger Sounded the Alarm.

Erie, Pa., Nov. 16.—A daring attempt was made by a gang of masked men to rob Lake Shore train No. 2 between Erie and Conneaut at 1 a. m.

The robbers boarded the train at Ashtabula, where it stopped to take water. At a lonely place called Dock Junction, two miles east of Conneaut, the express messenger stepped from one car to another for the purpose of checking up some express bills, when one of the gang sprang into the car and broke into several packages. Before he could get to where the money envelopes were the messenger returned, and seeing the robber at work gave the alarm.

The other members of the gang, who were standing guard on the platform of the west end of the car, then pulled the bell rope, and when the train stopped jumped off and made their escape in the darkness.

A sheriff's posse is now scouring the woods at the point where the affair occurred.

No. 2 carries several thousand dollars' worth of money packages every trip. So far as known the robbers did not secure any booty. The men all wore dark masks and were well armed.

T. T. Gould, general manager of the United States Express company, said he was unable to state whether the robbers had taken any booty. "The car was loaded at Cleveland," said he, "with valuables and general merchandise consigned to Buffalo and eastern points. Before the car left Cleveland it was securely locked.

Cornish Given a Seat.

New York, Nov. 16.—Conditions at the opening of the third day of the trial of Roland B. Molineux for the alleged murder of Mrs. Katherine J. Adams were not encouraging for an early beginning of the work of taking testimony. The panel had been exhausted and the special panel was pressed into service. Assistant District Attorney Osborne and Henry Cornish held a long consultation, at the end of which Cornish was given a seat within the railing in front of the bench. When Molineux was brought into court he looked cheerful and talked with his father and counsel. M. L. Martin was the first juror accepted. He is a retired stock broker.

Will Likely Be Settled.

Chicago, Nov. 16.—The lockout of the sheet metal workers declared by the manufacturers a few days ago, and which has threatened to result in a general sympathetic strike, involving all the unions affiliated with the building trades council, will probably be settled. The firm in whose foundry the strike, which resulted in the lockout, was called, tendered to their employees the amount of money deducted.

Thirty Meteors in Sight.

Chicago, Nov. 16.—Thirty meteors were reported in sight in the eastern sky just before dawn, and several photographs were secured by Professor Hough at Northwestern university. Owing to the brilliancy of the moon at the time of the observations, no Leonids fainter than a star of the second magnitude could be seen. Three particularly bright ones were observed.

Banks Hold Their Bonds.

New York, Nov. 16.—The banks and the trust companies in this city had up to noon manifested no disposition to avail themselves of the government's offer to purchase \$25,000,000 of its bonds. Up to 1 p. m. the subtreasury had been offered \$2,000,000 worth of bonds, mostly 4s, in small amounts.

A Leak on Cotton Report.

Washington, Nov. 16.—Secretary Wilson of the agricultural department is investigating the complaint of the New York Cotton Exchange that the special cotton crop report, issued on Tuesday, was in the hands of private firms before it reached the exchange.

Franchise Granted.

Constantinople, Nov. 16.—It is authoritatively stated that the Turkish government has approved the concession to the Deutsche bank of a railway extension to Bassorah, a city, and river port of Asiatic-Turkey 270 miles southeast of Bagdad.

Leipzig, Nov. 16.—Herr Moritz Busch, author of a "Life of Prince Bismarck," died here.